due to un-stable performance of Mobile Satellite transponders on INSAT-2C and -3B and failure of INSAT-2D Satellite.

The characteristics of the Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) transponders of INSAT 3C launched in January, 2002 are under observation. As there has been considerable delay from the launch of the Project, the demand of the users is to be reconfirmed. Further the issues related with the manufacturability of remote terminals and continuous availability of mobile Satellite Transponders on INSAT Satellite are to be re-ascertained before commencement of any commercial services based on this technology.

Guidelines for Diamond Certification

2664. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines on Diamond Certification;

(b) whether Government consider it necessary to make Diamond Certification compulsory; and

(c) if not, whether Government would take-up the issue in the interest of customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration of Government.